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1525 U.S. PTO
09/489676
01/24/00

January 24, 2000

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
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Box Patent Application

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Continuation Patent Application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b)
Appl. No. (to be assigned); Filed: Herewith
(Continuation of International Appl. No. PCT/IB98/01172, filed July 23, 1998)
For: **IEEE Set Top Box Device Driver**
Inventors: MERIC *et al.*
Our Ref: 1581.0540001

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S.
Patent and Trademark Office:

1. USPTO Utility Patent Application Transmittal Form PTO/SB/05;
2. U.S. Utility Patent Application entitled:

IEEE Set Top Box Device Driver

and naming as inventors:

Jérôme MERIC
Christophe DECLERCK

The PTO did not receive the following
listed item(s): 1. post card

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

January 24, 2000

Page 2

the application comprising:

a. A specification containing:

(i) 28 pages of description prior to the claims;

(ii) 9 pages of claims (46 claims);

(iii) a one (1) page abstract;

b. 5 sheets of drawings: (Figures 1-5);

3. A Preliminary Amendment; and

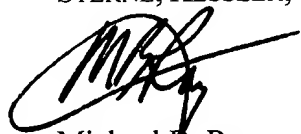
4. Two (2) return postcards.

It is respectfully requested that, of the two attached postcards, one be stamped with the filing date of these documents and returned to our courier, and the other, prepaid postcard, be stamped with the filing date and unofficial application number and returned as soon as possible.

This patent application is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) without Declaration and without filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Michael B. Ray
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 33,997

Please type a sign(+) inside box



PTO/SB/05 (2/98)

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Approved for use through 09/30/2000. OMB 0651-0032

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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR § 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No. 1581.0540001

First Inventor or Application Identifier MERIC et al.

Title IEEE Set Top Box Device Driver

Express Mail Label No.

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, DC 20231

1. ☐ * Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)
(Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)

2. ☒ Specification [Total Pages 38]

(preferred arrangement set forth below)
- Descriptive title of the Invention
- Cross References to Related Applications
- Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
- Reference to Microfiche Appendix
- Background of the Invention
- Brief Summary of the Invention
- Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
- Detailed Description
- Claim(s)
- Abstract of the Disclosure

3. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 5]

4. ☐ Oath or Declaration [Total Pages]

a. ☐ Newly executed (original or copy)

b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 17 completed)
[Note Box 5 below]

i. ☐ DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).

5. ☐ Incorporation By Reference (useable if Box 4b is checked)
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.

6. ☐ Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)

7. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)

a. ☐ Computer Readable Copy

b. ☐ Paper Copy (identical to computer copy)

c. ☐ Statement verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

8. ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))

9. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee) ☐ Power of Attorney

10. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)

11. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 ☐ Copies of IDS Citations

12. ☒ Preliminary Amendment

13. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)
(Should be specifically itemized)

14. ☐ *Small Entity Statement(s) (PTO/SB/09-12) ☐ Statement filed in prior application, Status still proper and desired

15. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
(if foreign priority is claimed)

16. ☐ Other: 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3) Authorization

☐ Other:

*NOTE FOR ITEMS 1 & 14: IN ORDER TO BE ENTITLED TO PAY SMALL ENTITY FEES, A SMALL ENTITY STATEMENT IS REQUIRED (37 C.F.R. § 1.27). EXCEPT IF ONE FILED IN A PRIOR APPLICATION IS RELIED UPON (37 C.F.R. § 1.28).

17. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment:

☒ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-Part (CIP) of prior application No: PCT/IB98/01172

Prior application information: Examiner Group/Art Unit:

18. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

☐ Customer Number
or Bar Code Label

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Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 33,997

SIGNATURE

Date 1/24/00

Burden Hour Statement: this form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.